

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 3-5, of the specification with:

B1
Benefit of provisional applications 60/036,987, filed January 30, 1997, and 60/038,911, filed February 26, 1997, and U.S. Serial No. 09/415,733, filed October 12, 1999, is hereby claimed.

Please replace the text at page 48 with the following passage:

ME
A correlation between increased β -myosin heavy chain and decreased α -myosin heavy chain (MHC) expression and cardiac hypertrophy has been established. The expression levels of these molecules can therefore be used to diagnosis hypertrophic conditions. In addition, by *ME* modulating the levels of α - and β -MHC towards their norm, one can provide a therapeutic intervention in cardiac hypertrophy and its progression to cardiac dysfunction. *ME*

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 17-22 and amend the remaining claim, claim 23, as follows:

B2
subcl
(Amended)
23. [^] A method of treating myocardial failure in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a transgene encoding for α -MHC.